

and courage that we, as Americans, have come to expect from our military personnel. As his family and community mourn his passing, I believe it is appropriate to recognize the life of this exceptional man, and his many contributions to his community, state and country.

Bill lived an immensely rich and full life, always holding firm to his beliefs in serving his community and country. In 1935, he graduated from flying school at Randolph Field, Texas, and began flying commercial flights until the onset of World War II. During the war, Bill flew numerous transport missions, serving as the Operations officer of the first regularly scheduled Military Air Transport runs. In 1945, he served as Operations officer for a dangerous and important transport operation between India and China known as "The Hump," and his unit received over nine hundred citations, and became the only non-combat unit to receive a Presidential unit citation. As the war ended, he was assigned to finding and removing American POW's from South East Asia, Singapore, and Indonesia, frequently flying into unsecured areas occupied with hostile forces.

At the end of the war, Bill was offered and accepted a regular commission and was transferred to Washington where he served as military aide and pilot to the first two Secretaries of the Air Force. His flights included piloting such dignitaries as Presidents Roosevelt, Truman, Eisenhower and Johnson, and taking Bob Hope and other Hollywood celebrities on Christmas trips to entertain our troops.

Mr. Speaker, we are all at a great loss because of Colonel Lorris Moomaw's passing, but can be comforted in knowing his service to our nation helped secure the freedoms we enjoy today. I am honored to pay tribute to the life and memory of Colonel Lorris William Moomaw before this body of Congress and this nation. My thoughts are with his loved ones during this difficult time of bereavement.

#### HONORING ADELE GILMORE

### HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a woman who will be missed by all who knew her. It brings me great sadness to report that Adele Gilmore of Sunrise, Florida, passed away on April 27th, at the age of 86. Ms. Gilmore championed her community through her deep conviction to philanthropic endeavors and public service. Her tremendous strength of character will be remembered by her friends, family, and colleagues.

Hardworking and driven, Ms. Gilmore was a former vice president of Nathan's Famous restaurant. She was hired to work at Nathan's by Murray Handwerker, the son of Nathan's founder Nathan Handwerker.

Ms. Gilmore founded the Nob Hill Chapter of the City of Hope, a research organization aimed at finding cures for cancer, AIDS, and other life-threatening diseases. Ms. Gilmore got involved in the City of Hope after losing her son, Mark, to AIDS. The Nob Hill Chapter of City of Hope has raised over \$2 million since 1987, and Ms. Gilmore's efforts at the group's annual Christmas gift wrapping drive at the Sawgrass Mills Mall helped generate that success.

Ms. Gilmore was also an active member of the Broward Democratic Executive Committee, as well as an officer and director of the Sunrise Regular Democratic Club. In addition, she found time to become involved in the political campaigns of former President Bill Clinton and former Vice President Al Gore.

Mr. Speaker, Adele Gilmore was both well-loved and widely respected by all those blessed to have known her. She is survived by her sister Evelyn, her sons David and Peter, her grandchildren Joshua, Benjamin, Maghan, and Fir, and one great-grandchild. Today we celebrate Adele's life, which serves as a wonderful example to all who follow in her footsteps.

#### RECOGNITION OF CAPTAIN JOHN TIPTON

### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Captain John Tipton who was recently killed in Iraq.

Capt. Tipton, 32, a 1989 Granite City High School graduate, died this past Sunday in an explosion during combat in the Al Anbar Province in Iraq. The province, west of Baghdad, is where Camp Fallujah is located and is one of the most hostile regions in Iraq. Capt. Tipton was commander of Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division out of Fort Riley. He was stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas with his wife, Susie Tipton, of Collinsville, and their two children, Austin, 4, and Kaitlyn, 2.

I am proud of the service Capt. Tipton has given to our country and the service he and others provide on a daily basis. Not enough can be said about the sacrifice and dedication these men and women display while serving in Iraq. It is troops like Capt. Tipton, those risking their lives everyday, that ensure our freedom here at home and to others throughout the rest of the world. I salute him and my heart felt condolences go out to his family and all the troops continually fighting to ensure freedom and democracy.

#### UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON PROGRAM TO PREVENT OBESITY

### HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, we have an epidemic of obesity in America, threatening to become the single most pressing public health issue before us within one year. I would like to commend the outstanding work being done at the University of Houston in my district, where they have recently created the Institute for Obesity Prevention and Urban Fitness.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2000, 31 percent of U.S. adults aged 20 years and older—nearly 59 million people—were obese. And the problem is getting steadily worse. In 2003 obesity was responsible for 16.6 percent of prevent-

able deaths in America, preceded only by tobacco which is responsible for about 430,000 deaths a year. Recent research suggests that obesity will become the leading cause of death by 2005, claiming more than 500,000 lives.

In addition to the enormous human toll, the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease estimates that the economic burden of those being overweight or obese in the United States totals approximately \$117 billion a year.

Realizing the serious need to address this nationwide epidemic, the Department of Health and Human Performance in the University of Houston's College of Education has begun development of the Institute for Obesity Prevention and Urban Fitness. The center will conduct clinical research, educational programs, and outreach to serve the UH student body and the demographically diverse underserved community surrounding the UH campus. In partnership with the Biomedical Engineering Group at the University of Houston, the institute will search for biomarkers to predict obesity risk and treatment outcomes. This unique, new institute gives the University of Houston a leading role in national obesity research.

I commend the University of Houston for creating a center whose studies will provide a model for the nation and whose research will benefit millions of Americans in the midst of a health crisis.

#### HONORING MR. STEWART UDALL

### HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mr. Stewart Udall who has served our country in many ways—for six years as a Member of the House of Representatives, nine years as Secretary of Interior, and countless years as an environmental activist, scholar, historian, and citizen of the outdoors. However, it is for a unique contribution to the preservation of our natural resources that I am here today; as Secretary of the Interior in 1962, Stewart Udall was instrumental in the creation of Point Reyes National Seashore in my district in Marin County, California.

Point Reyes National Seashore is truly a treasure for the nation. Conceived as a park in the 1930s, the hard work of dedicated people finally made the Seashore a reality during Stewart Udall's tenure. The park is enjoyed by over 2.5 million visitors annually and ranks among the top twenty most-visited National Parks in the country. Comprising over 71,000 acres of estuaries, beaches, coastal grasslands, salt marshes, and coniferous forests, Point Reyes National Seashore is home to 45% of North American avian species, 18% of California's plant species, and hundreds of migrating whales.

Its rich cultural history, dating back 5000 years to Miwok settlements, includes the landing of Sir Francis Drake in 1579 and the development of early 19th century Mexican land grants which are the precursors of modern ranches in the pastoral zones. The Seashore today successfully balances the needs of visitors and ranchers with the preservation of ecosystems and historical sites.

Upon his appointment as Secretary of the Interior by President John F. Kennedy, Stewart Udall exhibited the visionary leadership that preserved the natural and cultural heritage of Point Reyes National Seashore as well as other important seashores and lakeshores in the National Park System. He declared that "few areas in government leave a more abiding and visible mark on our land and our individual future than what is done or not done by the Department of Interior. Our success will be measured by the scars of neglect that are removed and the creative programs we realize in improving this great land of ours."

As an Arizona native, Secretary Udall brought to the Kennedy and Johnson administrations a unique understanding of the value of the ecosystems of the western United States. His Cabinet career resulted in The Wilderness Bill, The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and the creation of four new national parks, six national monuments, eight seashores and lakeshores, nine recreation areas, twenty historic sites, and 56 wildlife refuges.

Continuing his exploration of Western issues, Secretary Udall has documented the history of much of the region in several books, most recently, *The Forgotten Founders: Rethinking the History of the Old West*. This book brings to life the stories of actual people who settled the land, dispelling the myth of the predominance of handsome, six-gun-toting cowboys.

Mr. Speaker, Stewart Udall's vision, dedication, and leadership exemplify the best in public service. In his own words, "In the long run the best politics is a job well done."

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF NEIL KENNETH BURRASTON

##### HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and legacy of Mr. Neil Burraston, a Principal Consultant in the California State Legislature who recently passed away.

For more than 30 years, Burraston helped advance the political careers of countless California legislators by providing them with invaluable advice and unmatched policymaking expertise. More importantly, the numerous policies he helped draft on workers compensation, have improved the lives of millions of working families in California.

After a stellar administrative career in the New York State Legislature, Neil began his career with the California State Legislature in 1972 as an Administrative Analyst in both the Legislative Analyst's Office and the Joint Legislative Budget Committee. His mastery of state government policy-making was recognized by his colleagues in 1984, when he was promoted to Senior Consultant for the Senate Committee on Industrial Relations and later to Principal Consultant in 1993. When I was Chair of the Senate Industrial Relations Committee in the late 1990s, Burraston's expertise and advice helped me to make informed decisions about issues before the committee.

A near-fatal illness provided Burraston with renewed insight into the value and purpose of

life and the impact one can have on others outside the family. As an active member in his community, he advocated to end alcohol abuse among families and vulnerable children. As President of the National Council on Alcoholism, he helped organize the National Association of Adult Children of Alcoholics and sponsored youth support groups for young people who wished to live a life free of alcohol abuse.

Born in Payson, Utah on 1938, Burraston earned his bachelor's and master's degree in political studies from Brigham Young University. A devout Mormon and an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Burraston suffered a heart attack while serving on a Latter-day Saint mission and died on February 28, 2004, in San Antonio, Texas. He leaves behind his loving wife, Amanda, five children, 16 grandchildren and two siblings.

Neil Burraston will always be known for his contributions to the State of California, its Legislature, and its people. His work will always be a model for other consultants and legislators to learn and emulate. Although we will miss Neil dearly, his life and legacy will live in our hearts forever.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO MIKE BLOSS

##### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a sad heart that I rise to pay tribute to the passing of a selfless servant from my district. Mike Bloss, a native of Winter Park, Colorado, was recently killed while serving our country in Iraq as a contract security specialist. A beloved figure in his community, Mike dedicated his efforts to teaching students with disabilities how to ski and mountain bike. As his family and community mourn his passing, I believe it appropriate to bring his contributions to his community, state, and country to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation.

Mike was a retired Welsh special forces officer who began as a volunteer at the National Sports Center for the Disabled in Winter Park. As he gained more experience through various instruction certification programs, he turned the volunteering opportunity into a seasonal job. Mike was a fond employee of the organization who demonstrated great understanding for the needs of skiers with disabilities, having suffered a foot injury himself from a fall he took while he was in the military. As an additional source of income and for the chance of an adventure, Mike took on contract jobs with a Virginia firm that specialized in high-risk private security.

Mr. Speaker, Mike Bloss was a dedicated man who selflessly served his community and country, and I am honored to recognize his sacrifice before this body of Congress and this nation. His lifetime of service is an incredible model for America's youth. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family during this difficult time of bereavement.

IN RECOGNITION OF MICHAEL BESCHLOSS, 2004 RECIPIENT OF THE HARRY S TRUMAN AWARD FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

##### HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 6, 2004*

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Michael R. Beschloss, who is receiving the 2004 Harry S Truman Award for Public Service from the City of Independence at the Truman Presidential Museum and Library on May 7, 2004. After President Truman's death on December 26, 1972, the City of Independence established this award to honor an outstanding individual who possesses the qualities of Harry S Truman. Since 1974, the annual award has honored individuals who have demonstrated "dedication, industry, ability, honesty and integrity" in their significant contributions to our country.

This year's recipient is the award winning historian and highly acclaimed author, Michael Beschloss. Last year, Beschloss generously agreed to be the keynote speaker for the Truman Presidential Library and Museum "Wild About Harry" fundraiser. Mr. Beschloss received rave reviews, as he captivated the audience with his humor and knowledge of presidential history. In his presentation, Mr. Beschloss said, "There is library so much on the cutting edge of what a library should do than the Truman Library." Mr. Beschloss's participation was the laudable attraction that generated the funds to ensure the expansion of educational programs and exhibits at the Truman Library. With seven books to his credit, Newsweek has called him "the nation's leading Presidential historian," and he has found a number of venues to pursue his career. As a respected author, essayist, editor, and television commentator, he continually lends an insightful eye to his informative and authoritative commentary and analysis of current and historic events in American culture. Beschloss has taken us behind the scenes in his research of many of the presidents since Roosevelt.

Like President Harry S Truman, Michael Beschloss found common ground in the belief that men are driven by history. President Truman stated, "It takes men to make history, or there would be no history. History does not make the man." Michael Beschloss has traditionally examined the inner workings of the presidency and political events throughout his publications and media appearances. His research has led him to explore presidential decision making and pinpoint administrative paradigm shifts in his analysis of new directions and he has explained their impact on domestic and foreign affairs.

President Truman said, "My debt to history is one which cannot be calculated. I know of no other motivation which so accounts for my awakening interest as a young lad in the principles of leadership and government." Michael Beschloss has examined the principles and actions of our nation's leaders and his writing is distinguished with analysis and illumination of the political process. For the past twenty years, he has articulated the deeper layers of thought and action that color the American political process, and he has earned the status as one of the most trusted experts on Presidents and the election process.